

## **Notice Regarding Officiants**

The Delaware County Orphans' Court does not determine who is recognized as an officiant to solemnize a marriage. We also cannot recommend an officiant or provide guidance on online ordination services. The PA Marriage Law, <u>Title 23 Pa. C.S. § 1503</u>, states who is qualified to officiate a marriage ceremony in Pennsylvania. It is the couples' responsibility to arrange the ceremony and ensure the validity of the officiant. If you choose to be married by someone other than the officials specifically authorized by the statute, the burden of proof regarding the legality (or lack thereof) of your marriage will be upon you should future issues arise. If you are unsure of whether a person is authorized under the statute to perform the ceremony, you should contact an attorney.

Officials who can perform marriages include but may not be limited to: Clergy with a congregation, Mayor or Former Mayor, and District Judge/Magistrate Judge (Administrative office of the Magistrate District Judges 610-565-6990).

Please see: <u>List of Magistrate District Judges</u>.